



ORKNEY
ISLANDS COUNCIL

Westray Junior High School

Head Teacher: Mr Andrew King

Policy

Homework

06.12.2007

Rationale

We believe homework is important because:

- It develops independent learning skills.
- Parents can become actively involved in their pupils learning.
- It can consolidate, reinforce and extend knowledge and understanding developed in the classroom.
- It encourages a partnership between school and home.

Expectations

Letters are sent home to primary pupils at the start of each term outlining the type and nature of homework to be set.

In Secondary, all pupils have a homework diary which they are required to keep up to date. There is also a homework timetable to aid pupils to use their time effectively. These systems enable parents to monitor the work and to be actively involved.

Secondary Homework time guidelines (based on 5 nights per week)	
Year Group	Time per day
S1	30 – 40 mins
S2	40 – 50 mins
S3/4	1 – 1½ hours
Pupils should not be exceeding the maximum time in the guidelines.	

We recognise that home circumstances may make regular homework sessions difficult and therefore provide a Secondary homework club on Thursdays after school.

Further guidelines are available for staff.

Guidelines for staff

- Regular homework enables pupils to organise themselves and provides clear expectations for them.
- Homework should be clearly explained, properly recorded in homework diaries and have a clearly identified deadline.
- Homework should be relevant and of interest to pupils.
- Homework should be appropriately differentiated and fully inclusive.
- Homework should be carefully planned, structured, manageable and appropriately integrated with classwork.
- Homework should be checked on the day it is due to see if it has been completed and a reasonable effort has been made by the pupil.
- Positive feedback is important when homework has been completed on time with reasonable effort.
- If the homework is unsatisfactory, sanctions, appropriate to the pupil, should follow as soon as possible. It is the expectation that the class teacher deals with this issue. In Secondary a class teacher may choose to complete a referral form to advise a Head of Year.